

20th December 1956]

[Mr. Chairman]

hon. Member Sri Purushótham said, I hope we would have the pleasure of seeing her in her uniform. This morning in her robes she looked very nice indeed. (Laughter.) I hope she will one day come to the House in her uniform.

* SRIMATHI MARY C. CLUBWALA JADHAV : Mr. Chairman, Hon. the Leader of the House and hon. Members, I am indeed overwhelmed and honoured by the many kind words of congratulation expressed about me on this honour of being the first woman Sheriff in the City of Madras. I may mention, Mr. Chairman, that Bombay had the honour of having a woman Sheriff, some eight or nine years ago. And also there is a woman Sheriff sworn in today in Bombay and she is, too, another social worker. I am indeed very proud that for the first time our Government—which, as I said, in another platform is very conservative—have chosen a woman to this high office. This is not an honour done to me alone but to my sex. So, I am very proud of this particular honour and I hope that I shall be able to fulfil this duty of mine as best as I can, and I shall try to show that women can perform all the duties that may come their way in their country. (interruption) in a better way of course, than men.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and the Hon. the Leader of the House and other hon. Members and I am grateful for the great confidence reposed in me by our Government. I thank our Chief Minister, the Governor and the Hon. Ministers for the selection. I thank you all for your kind words and good wishes. I shall try to come in my uniform, if you, Sir, order me to do so.

MR. CHAIRMAN : But I cannot order a Sheriff! Can I?

III.—ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE HON. CHAIRMAN *RE* ELECTION OF TWO MEMBERS TO THE SENATE OF THE ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY.

MR. CHAIRMAN : I have to announce to the House that
Srimathi S. Manjubhashini and Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar,
M.L.Cs., are the only two candidates duly nominated for election
to the Senate of the Annamalai University. As the number of
candidates nominated is equal to the number of vacancies to be
filled, namely, two, I hereby declare them duly elected to the
Senate of the Annamalai University.

3-30
p.m.

IV.—GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET FOR THE YEAR 1957-58—*cont.*

MR. CHAIRMAN : Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar will now continue his speech on the Budget.

* SRI A. GAJAPATHY NAYAGAR : மன்றத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, நேற்றையதினம் சல்லியைப்பற்றிப் பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தேன். அதில் முக்கியமான ஒரு கட்டம் முதியார் சல்லியைப்பற்றியது. அதைப்பற்றி இந்தசபையில் முன்பு நான் ஒரு தீர்மானம் கொண்டுவந்தேன். முதியோர் சல்லியை நமது அரசியலார் கொஞ்சம் ஊக்கத்துடன் பப்புவார்களே யானால், நம் நாடும் உயர்வடையும். மக்களுடைய அறியாமையும் போகும்.

[Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar] [20th December 1956]

தேர்தல் விஷயத்தில் நம் மக்கள் இன்னும் 'கை நாட்டு' -ல் இருப்பதால் அந்தக் குறைபாடும் நீங்கும் என்று சொல்ல விரும்புகிறேன். முதியோர் கல்வியைப் பற்றி நான் பல கேள்விகள் அனுப்பியிருந்தேன். கேள்விகள் அனுப்பி மூன்று மாதங்கள் ஆகின்றன. ஆனால் இன்னும் ஒரு பதிலும் வரவில்லை. நமது சட்ட சபையில் ஒரு குறை இருக்கிறது. அதாவது கேள்விகள் அனுப்பினால் அவைகளுக்குப் பதில் கால தாமதமின்றி, வருவதில்லை. என்னுடைய நண்பர்கள் சிலரிடம் இதபற்றிக் கேட்டேன். ஒரு அண்ணக்கு முன்பு அனுப்பிய கேள்விகளுக்குப் பதில்கள் வந்ததாகத் தெரிகிறது. நான் கேள்வி அனுப்பி மூன்று மாதங்கள் ஆகின்றன. முதியோர் கல்விக்காக இப்போது தேசிய வளர்ச்சித் திட்டத்தின்கீழ் பல அண்டுகளிலும் பல திட்டங்கள் போடப்படுகின்றன. "தேசிய வளர்ச்சித் திட்டத்தின் பயனாக, இதுவரை படிக்காத முதிபவர்களில் யாராவது படித்திருக்கிறார்களா?" என்று கேள்வி அனுப்பியிருந்தேன். ஆண்களிலோ பெண்களிலோ இதுவரை படிக்காத முதிபவர்கள் படித்திருக்கிறார்களா என்று அறிய விரும்பினேன். நான் கேள்வி அனுப்பி மூன்று மாதங்கள் ஆகியும் இன்னும் பதில் வரவில்லை. குற்றம் சொல்வேண்டுமென்று நான் இதைச் சொல்லவில்லை. ஆனால் குறையைச் சொல்ல நான் கடமைப்பட்டிருக்கிறேன். ஆகவேதான் இதைச் சொல்கிறேன்.

நமது நாட்டில் உயது வந்தவர்கள் சல்லி கற்றுக்கொள்ளவேண்டுமென்றால் ஒரு ஆண்டில் கற்றுக்கொள்ள முடியும். அவ்வளவு உசதிகள் இருக்கின்றன. அக்கையால், எல்லாத் துறைகளிலும் முன்னேறவேண்டுமென்றால் முதியோர் கல்விக்கு தேசிய வளர்ச்சித் திட்டத்தில் நல்ல முறையில் வகை செய்யவேண்டும்" என்று அரசியலாசை வேண்டிக்கொள்கிறேன்.

நமது பெண்களில் பெருவாரியானவர்கள் நன்றாகப் படித்திருக்கிறார்கள். பி.எஸ்.ஸி., எம்.எஸ்.ஸி. தேறியவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் எல்லாம் வேலையில்லாமல் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அரசியலார் பெருப்பாலான படித்த பெண்களை உத்தியோகத்தில் அபர்த்தவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கிறேன். அதற்கு அறிஞரியாக நமது கனம் உறுப்பினர் ஸ்ரீமதி சின்பாலா அவர்கள் சேனை நகர வெரிப் ஆணதுபற்றி பாராட்டுகிறேன். காலையில் அம்மையார் அவர்களை கோட்டுடன் போட்டோவில் பார்த்தேன். உடனே எனக்கு ஷேக்ஸ்பியரின் 'மெர்ச்சண்ட் ஆப் வெனிஸ்' நாடகம் ரூபகம் வந்தது அந்த நாடகத்தில் அந்தோணிபோலுக்காக வாதாடிய வக்கீல் போர்ஷியாவின் ரூபகம் வந்தது. ஏனென்றால், கோட்டுடன் இருந்த அம்மையாரிடம் வக்கீல்ஸ்வரூபம் இருந்தது. அம்மையாரை நான் நன்கு அறிவேன். பல ஆண்டுகளுக்கு முன் அண்ணாமலை நகரத்திற்குப் போய்விட்டுத் திரும்பி வந்துகொண்டிருந்தபோது அவர் ரயிலில் பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தார். அவர் ஆங்கிலத்தில் வேகமாக, ரயில் போன்ற வேகத்திற்கும் மேலாக, பேசிக்கொண்டிருந்தார். "இது யார்? இவ்வளவு வேகமாக ஆங்கிலத்தில் பேசுகிறார்களே" என்று ஆச்சரியப்பட்டேன். பிறகு யார் என்று தெரிந்துகொண்டேன். மிகுந்த அறவும், பொது நல ஊழியத்தில் ஆர்வமும் கொண்ட அவர் தம் நாட்டுப் பெண்களுக்குத் தலகண்ணியாக இருப்பதைப் பாராட்டுகிறேன். நான் பேசுவதை அவர்கள் தெரிந்து கொண்டிருப்பார்கள் என்று நம்புகிறேன். (குறுக்கீடு) அம்மையார் நான் பேசியதைத் தெரிந்துகொண்டது குறித்து, அம்மையாருக்குத் தமிழ் தெரிந்திருப்பது குறித்து இன்னும் பாராட்டுகிறேன்.

அரசாங்க அதிகாரிகளின் எண்ணிக்கையைக் குறைக்கவேண்டும். நீதித் துறையை எடுத்துக்கொண்டால் மூன்றுவித நீதிபதிகள் இடக்கிறார்கள். ஒரு வழக்கில் தீர்ப்புக் கொடுக்கப்பட்டுவால் முதல் கோர்ட்டின் தீர்ப்பிற்குப் பிறகு மேல் கோர்ட்டுக்கு அப்பீல் செய்யலாம். இரண்டாவது கோர்ட்டிற்கும் மேல் சட்டசியாக ஒரு மூன்றாவது கோர்ட்டு இருக்கும். ஆகவே மூன்றுவித நீதிபதிகள் இருப்பார்கள். ஒவ்வொரு வழக்கும் மூன்று முறை கவனிக்கப்படலாம். ஆனால் நமது செக்ரேடரியட்டிலோ ஒவ்வொரு இலாகாவிலும் நான்கைந்து காரியதரிசிகள் இருக்கிறார்கள்.

20th December 1956]

[Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar]

இத்தனை பேர்கள் இருப்பதால்தான் வேலையில் கரல தாமதம் ஏற்படுகிறது என்று நினைக்கிறேன். ஒரு வேலைக்கு நான்கைந்து பேர்கள் இருந்தால் வேலை எப்படி சீக்கிரம் நடக்கும்? மூன்று பேர்களிடம் பொறுப்பை ஒப்படைத்தால் காலதாமதம் ஏற்படாது, சீக்கிரம் காரியம் நடக்கும். ஆகவே எந்த எந்த இலாகாக்களில் எவ்வளவு அதிகாரிகளைக் குறைத்துக் கொள்ள முடியுமோ அவ்வளவு அதிகாரிகளை அந்த அந்த இலாகாக்களில் குறைக்கவேண்டும். ரொம்பவும் குறைக்கவேண்டுமென்று நான் சொல்லவில்லை. வேலை காலதாமதமின்றி நல்ல முறையில் நடப்பதற்காகவே இதைச் சொல்கிறேன்.

இப்போது ஒன்று சொல்லவேண்டியிருக்கிறது. நாட்டில் வேலையில்லாத திண்டாட்டம், வறுமை இரண்டும் தாண்டவமாடிக்கொண்டிருக்கின்றன. எந்தத் திட்டத்தை எடுத்துக்கொண்டாலும் கிராமங்களிலுள்ள மக்களுடைய ஏழ்மை நிலையும், அறியாமை - நிலையும்தான் குறுக்கிட்டிருக்கிறதே தவிர எந்தத் திட்டமும் சரியாக நிறைவேறவில்லை. இதற்குக் காரணம் நமது கிராமங்களை நல்ல முறையில் சீர்திருத்தி அமைக்காமல் இருப்பதுதான். ஏதாவது திட்டங்களை கிராமங்களில் நிறைவேற்றவேண்டுமென்றால் கிராம மக்கள் திட்டச் செலவில் கால் பங்கு பணம் கொடுக்கவேண்டுமென்று அரசாங்கத்தார் சொல்கிறார்கள். கிராமவாசிகளோ இன்றைக்குப் பணம் இருந்தால் நாளைக்கு சாப்பாட்டிற்குப் பணம் இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். அவர்கள் எப்படி திட்டச் செலவிற்குப் பணம் கொடுப்பார்கள்? பல கிராமங்களில் மக்கள் கால் பங்கு பணத்தைக் கொடுக்க முடியாமல் இருப்பதால் பல கிராம முன்னேற்றத் திட்டங்கள் நிறைவேறாமல் இருந்து வருகின்றன. நான் பஞ்சாயத்து ஆபீஸ்களில் விசாரித்து வருகிறேன். அரசாங்கத்தார் வரவு செலவுத் திட்டத்தில் கிராமத் திட்டங்களுக்கு எவ்வளவோ பணம் ஒதுக்கி வருகிறார்கள். ஆனால் அதெல்லாம் செலவு செய்யப்படாமல் வாபசாிக்கொண்டே வருகிறது. அரசாங்கம் எவ்வளவு பணம் திட்டங்களுக்கு ஒதுக்குகிறதோ அவ்வளவு பணமும் செலவாகவேண்டும். செலவு செய்யப்படாமல் திருப்பித் தரப்பட்டால் ஆட்சி நல்ல ஆட்சியாகாது; திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு அரசாங்கத்தார் உத்தரவு போடவில்லை என்று சிலர் அடிக்கடி சொல்கிறார்கள். ஆனால் திட்டங்களை நிறைவேற்றுவதற்கு வேண்டிய பணத்தைக் கொடுக்கமுடியாமல் கிராம வாசிகள் இருக்கிறார்கள்.

அரசியலார் சிறு கைத்தொழில்களை கிராமங்களுக்குக் கொண்டு வருவதை நான் வரவேற்கிறேன். அதோடு கூட, கைக்குத்தல் அரிசித் தொழிலை விருத்தி செய்யவேண்டும். மக்கள் இப்போது மில் அரிசியைச் சாப்பிட்டு நோய்வாய்ப்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகையால் கைக்குத்தல் அரிசியை மக்கள் உபயோகிப்பதற்கு ஏற்பாடு செய்யவேண்டும்.

விவசாயம் செய்யும் மாதங்களைத் தவிர மற்ற ஆறு மாத காலங்களில் கிராமத்திலே உள்ள மக்கள் வேலை இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறார்கள். அந்தக் காலத்தில் அவர்களுக்கு வேலை கொடுக்குவடியான ஏற்பாடுகளைச் செய்யலாம். கதர் நூல் நூற்று கதர் ஆடைகள் நெய்யலாம் நாட்டில் ஏராளமான ஆலைகள் இருக்கும்போது கதர் ஆடைகள் எதற்காக என்று ஒரு சிலர் கேட்கலாம். ஆகாய விமானங்களும், மோட்டார் கார்களும் இருக்கும்போது மாட்டு வண்டிகள் எதற்கு என்று கேட்க முடியுமா? மணிக்கு 60 மைல் வேகத்தில் போகும் மோட்டார் கார்களும் வேண்டும்; மணிக்கு நான்கு மைல் போகும் மாட்டு வண்டிகளும் தான் வேண்டும். எந்த எந்தக் காலத்தில், எந்த எந்த இடத்தில் எது வேண்டுமோ அது அவசியம்தான். அதைப்போல, மில்களின் மூலமாகவும் ஆடைகள் நெய்யலாம். கிராமக் கைத்தொழில்கள் மூலமாகக் கதர், கைக்குறி ஆடைகளும் நெய்யலாம். மில் ஆடைகளைத் தவிர கதர் ஆடைகளை நெய்யும் வேலையும், கைத்தறி ஆடைகளை நெய்யும் வேலையும் கிராமப்புறங்களில் உள்ள மக்களுக்கு விவசாய வேலை இல்லாத மாதங்களில் செய்ய வசதி செய்து கொடுக்கப்பட்டால் அவர்கள் ஆண்டு

[Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar]

[20th December 1956]

பூராவும் ஏதோ ஒரு விதமாக வேலை செய்து வாழ முடியும். கிராமப்புறங்களில் உள்ளவர்கள், குறிப்பாக பெண் பிள்ளைகள் உடுக்கும் ஆடையைப் பார்த்தால் மிகப் பரிதாபமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆண்டுக்கு ஒரு புடவைக்கு மேல் வாங்குகிறார்களா என்பதே சந்தேகம். என்னென்றால் அரை ஆண்டு கிராம மக்களுக்கு வேலையில்லாத கொடுமையினால், வருவாய் இல்லாமல், சோம்பித் திறிவதோடு, எவ்வளவோ இழிதொழில்களையும் செய்ய முற்படுகிறார்கள். ஆகவே விவசாய காலங்கள் போக மற்ற நாட்களில் தினம் ஒன்றுக்கு நாலணுவாவது சம்பாதிக்கக்கூடியபடி அவர்களுக்கு ஏதாவது தொழில் செய்யக்கூடிய வசதி இருக்கவேண்டாமா? அந்தச் சமயத்தில் கடர், கை நெசவுகளில் அவர்களை ஈடுபடுத்தினால் யாருக்கு நஷ்டம் ஏற்படும்? மில் துணிகளுக்கு என்ன ஆபத்து வந்துவிடப்போகிறது? மில் துணி உற்பத்தியை அது வெகுவாக பாதித்துவிடாது. ஏராளமான மில் துணிகளை உற்பத்தி செய்து வெளி நாடுகளுக்கு ஏற்றுமதி செய்து நிறைய டாலர் எக்ஸ்சேஞ்சு செய்துகொள்ளட்டும். ஆகவே அரசியலார் இது சம்பந்தமாக ததரியமாக இருந்து கிராமத்திலுள்ளவர்களுக்கு ஆண்டு பூராவும் வேலை கிடைக்கச் செய்து அவர்களை உழைப்பில் ஈடுபடுத்தவேண்டும்.

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p.m.

மக்களிடையே சுதேசி உணர்ச்சியைப் பரப்பவேண்டும். உள் நாட்டில் தயாரிக்கக்கூடிய பொருள்களை மக்கள் வாங்கி உபயோகித்து, அவைகளுக்கு ஆதரவு தரும்படி ஊக்குவிக்கவேண்டும். சுதேசிப் பொருள்களுக்கு ஆதரவு தருவதை விடுத்து, அநேகர் பல உயர்தரமான, விலை உயர்ந்த ஆடைகளை அணிவதில் பெருமைப்படுகிறார்கள், கவர்ச்சிகரமாக இருப்பதாக எண்ணுகிறார்கள். இந்த நிலைமை மாறவேண்டும். நம் நாட்டில் உற்பத்தியான பொருள்களை நாம் வாங்கி உபயோகிக்கவேண்டுமென்ற உணர்ச்சிகொண்டு, சுதேசிப் பொருள்களுக்கு ஆதரவு தந்து, அவைகளை வாங்கி உபயோகித்தால், நம் நாட்டில் அந்தக் கைத்தொழிலில் ஈடுபட்ட ஏராளமான மக்கள் நன்றாக வாழ்வார்கள் என்பதை எல்லோரும் ஞாபகத்தில் வைத்துக்கொள்ள வேண்டும். சேஷம் நல ராஜ்யம் உண்டாகவேண்டுமென்று சொல்லும் போது மக்களெல்லோரும் எல்லா நலன்களும் பெற்று நன்றாக வாழ வேண்டுமென்ற முறையில் கிராமக் கைத்தொழில்களை அபிவிருத்தி செய்யவேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக்கொள்கின்றேன்.

நம் நாட்டில் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் வேற்றுமை கிடையாது என்று நேற்றே சொன்னேன். கிறிஸ்தவ மதத்திற்கு மாறின ஹரிஜனங்களுக்குச் சலுகைகள் கொடுக்கப்போவதாக அமைச்சரவர்கள் உரையில் குறிப்பிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். சலுகை வேண்டியதுதான்; வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லவில்லை. மதம் மாறினவர்களுக்கும், மதம் ஏறினவர்களுக்கும் சலுகை வேண்டியதுதான். மதம் மாறிய மக்களுக்கும், மதம் ஏறின மக்களுக்கும் மட்டும்தான் சலுகை அளிக்கவேண்டும்? ஏனா மக்கள், பிற்பட்ட மக்கள் எத்தனையோ லட்சக்கணக்கான பேர்களுடைய நிலைமை மோசமாக இருக்கிறது. தலைவிரி கோலமாக இருக்கிறது. ஆண்டுக்கு ஒரு புடவைகூட வாங்கமுடியாத கேவலமான நிலைமையில் அவர்கள் இருக்கிறார்கள். நாட்டின் ஜனத் தொகையில் மூன்றிலொருங்கு பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் இருக்கும்போது மதம் ஏறினவர்கள், மதம் மாறினவர்கள் என்று வேற்றுமை காணாது எல்லோருக்கும் சலுகை கொடுக்கக்கூடாதா? மதம் மாறின ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும், மதம் ஏறின ஹரிஜனங்களுக்கும் சலுகை அளிக்கட்டும்; வேண்டாமென்று சொல்லவில்லை. அத்துடன் கூட பிற்பட்ட வகுப்பினருக்கும் மற்றவர்களுக்கும் உதவி செய்து அவர்களையும் முன்னேரச்செய்யவேண்டும். ஆகையால் நாம் ஒருவருக்கொருவர் வேற்றுமை காணாது, எல்லோரும் நன்றாக வாழும் முறையில் காரியங்களைச் செய்யவேண்டும். அப்படி அரசியலார் செய்யும்போது நாமும் உடன் இருந்து வேண்டிய உதவி செய்யவேண்டும். அரசியலாரை ஏதோ திட்டவதிலும், இழுக்கான வார்த்தைகளைச் சொல்வதிலும் பயன் இல்லை. நாட்டில் எங்கே குற்றம் இருந்தாலும், யார் அந்தக் குற்றத்தைச் செய்தாலும் அதற்கு அரசியலார் மட்டும் பொறுப்பாளிகள் அல்ல. நாம்

20th December 1956] [Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar]

எல்லோருமே அதற்குப் பொறுப்பெடுத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும். நாட்டில் குற்றம் இருந்தால் அந்தக் குற்றம் ஒவ்வொருவரையும் சார்ந்தது, என்னையும் சார்ந்தது, ஸ்ரீ பாசுபரமணிய அய்யரையும் சார்ந்தது, சேர்மன் அவர்களையும் சார்ந்தது, மந்திரி சபையையும் சார்ந்தது. இந்த நாட்டில் நடக்கும் குற்றங்களுக்கு எல்லோரும் தான் பொறுப்பு ஏற்றுக் கொள்ளவேண்டும். அதைத் தட்டிக் கழிக்க முடியாது. குறிப்பாக கனம் எதிர்க்கட்சி உப-தலைவருக்கு நான் சொல்வது என்னவென்றால், இந்த நாட்டில் காணும் குற்றங்களுக்கு நாட்டிலுள்ள ஒவ்வொரு தனி மனிதனும் குற்றவாளியாவேண்டும். ஆகையால் எல்லோரும் பொறுப்பேற்று, குற்றங்களைக் களையப் பாடுபடவேண்டும். மறப்படி வேறுவிதமாக சர்ச்சை செய்துகொண்டு ஒருவரையொருவர் இழ்த்துப் பேசுவதினால் பயனில்லை. எல்லோரும் ஒன்று சேர்ந்து நாட்டைப் பல துறைகளிலும் முன்னேற்றுவதற்குப் பாடுபடவேண்டும். 'ஒன் டப்டால் உண்டு வாழ்வு' என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டும், இதுவரை எனக்குப் பேச அனுமதி தந்த அவைத் தலைவருக்கு வணக்கத்தைத் தெரிவித்துக்கொண்டும் நான் அமருகிறேன். வணக்கம்.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Mr. Chairman, at the outset, not having spoken before, I want to join with the other hon. Members in expressing my congratulations to Srimathi Mary C. Clubwala Jadhav on her appointment as Sheriff of Madras.

I want to mention that I greatly appreciate the Hon. the Leader of the House delivering his Budget speech in Tamil. I think hereafter most of the Members may speak in Tamil. (Interruption.) I am ready to do so.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : How long will it take to unlearn English?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : We need not unlearn English. We can make our speeches in Tamil and also in English. We can still read books in English. All that will be quite all right.

I find a little difficulty in understanding the procedure adopted by the Government in presenting an interim Budget. According to the Constitution, we are to have only the usual annual Budget. That could very well have been presented. I cannot understand why there should be this interim Budget. No sufficient reasons have been given except the coming General Elections. That is not a reason or ground recognised by the Constitution for varying the general procedure. Anything that is done by the present Government, so far as it is legal, will bind the successor Government that may come into office hereafter. Adoption of the present procedure may be a reflection that they are diffident. But, in the present instance, I am perfectly sure that the Party which is now in power will come back to power. Therefore, they need not be afraid that their policy will be affected. After all, they will declare their policy in their manifestos. Everything would have been all right if they had followed the general procedure contemplated in the Constitution. The procedure adopted by them at present is not natural and is not quite consistent with articles 202, 203 and 204

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar] [20th December 1956]

of the Constitution which state that an annual Budget or annual financial statement should be presented to the Legislature. Only on occasions when it is very necessary to have an advanced Grant and to have a 'vote on account' as mentioned by the Hon. the Minister for Finance in his Budget speech, it would be all right. In all other cases, they have to present the regular Budget. Even now, if they are anxious, they can do it. This was what I felt when I first looked into the Budget speech and the Budget proposals.

Sir, all prosperity Budgets and all Five-Year Plans will be of no avail in affording benefits to the poor people if the present rise in prices is allowed to continue. This inflationary trend is a dangerous thing. This has been admitted even by the Ministers of the Union Government. The price of not only rice but also all articles of food including even gingili oil, mustard, thippili and so many other things has been steadily increasing. As a result of this, poor people find it very difficult to buy all these articles.

Recently, there was a symposium in which economists and others took part on the causes for this inflationary trend. You will remember, Sir, that last year, we were complaining about fall in prices of agricultural products. Some economists were of the opinion that the present inflationary trend was due to increased circulation of money and greater purchasing power. But others were not satisfied that these two things alone were responsible for this gradual rise in prices. This is still going on. The Government have not arrested the same. No doubt, they have opened a few fair price shops and arranged for the distribution of large quantities of rice at cheap prices to the people. But, it is a pitiable sight to see the poor people standing before these shops for long hours in the day for getting half a measure or one measure of rice. On some enquiry and investigation, I have been told that the rice supplied is not of very good quality, and even some of the poor people rather prefer to buy rice in the open market. This is admitted by all. The Government are also, I am sure, aware of the position. It is also admitted that the distribution of rice through these fair price shops has had no effect on reducing the price of rice. Of course, rice is sold in these shops at 11 annas or 12 annas per measure. But, in view of the difficulty experienced in getting small quantities of one measure and two measures of this rice and also in view of the poor quality of the rice, people prefer to buy their requirements outside. Thus, we see no reduction in the price of rice in spite of the opening of these fair price shops.

SRI A. M. ALLAPICHAJ : Sir, if I am not misunderstood, I would like to say that large quantities of rice sold in these shops are finding their way to the usual shops outside.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Yes, that is also being done. It has also been pointed out by one Member. Sometimes, children are asked to make benami purchases. Such things are really taking place.

20th December 1956]

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : Children are not allowed now.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Yes. I learn that recently a ban has been put on their purchasing rice at these shops. Whatever it is, I only wish to point out that the steps that the Government have taken till now have not produced the desired result of reducing the price of rice. It is not only the price of rice that has risen, but the price of so many other articles of daily necessity also has increased. The root cause for this should be carefully investigated by the Government and suitable remedies found to check this. I, therefore, appeal to our Government and also the Union Government to think over the matter carefully and do something to reduce the price of these articles of daily necessity. They must go into the root cause for this and see that the prices are effectively controlled. Mere control of prices through the Government machinery will not do. That will only increase sales in the black-market. This is also admitted by the Government. This is a very important matter in which, I hope and trust, our Government will do something concrete. The Union and the State Governments should seriously consider this question, find out the root cause for this inflationary trend and rise in prices and try to check them.

I am glad that the National Development Council has accepted the viewpoint of our Finance Minister and decided that an excise duty should be levied on mill cloth, tobacco and sugar in the place of the existing sales tax. But the Centre should remember that a large quantity of the mill cloth in the country is consumed in our State and that the distribution of the income from this levy to the State should be made with due regard to this fact. In the Budget Speech, it is stated that this decision of the National Development Council may meet the demands of merchants who have been pressing for a single-point levy of sales tax. But, why not take the bold step of having a single-point levy in respect of all commodities and abolishing the multi-point levy altogether? This has been the demand of all our people including small, retail merchants. Single-point levy will obviate the necessity for the staff which is now employed to collect sales tax. As the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has stated many times, it is a regressive tax. After all, it is an indirect tax and it is ultimately passed on to the consumer. Last year, by a special amendment of the General Sales Tax Act, the levy on sugar was increased. Therefore, we go on increasing the burden on the people. Therefore, the notion of having a multi-point levy should be revised. The Government should take the bold step of having a single-point levy as has been demanded by the retail merchants particularly.

3-50
p.m.

As regards the temples in the new Kanyakumari district, there is a provision in the present Budget of Rs. 5.6 lakhs and this is for the period up to March 1957. I want to know what the Government have done in respect of the four months from April

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar] [20th December 1956]

to July for which, they say, the advance grants will continue. There is also another difficulty here. Article 290 (a) of the Constitution lays down that a sum of Rs. 13.5 lakhs should be handed over to the Devaswom Board constituted in the Kerala State. The whole expenditure of Rs. 60 lakhs is apportioned as Rs. 46 lakhs for Kerala and Rs. 13.6 lakhs for Madras. If the Devaswom Board continues in Kerala, I do not know how it can exercise jurisdiction over the temples in the new Kanyakumari district. I think the Madras Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Act ought to apply to this district. The Commissioner should take over full control of these temples. There is also a suggestion that the Government are going to constitute a separate Devaswom Board for these temples after adapting the Travancore-Cochin Endowment Act of 1950 for the purpose. Why all this circuitous procedure, I cannot understand. Once the Kanyakumari district forms part of the Madras State, our Act should apply to that district. If there is any difficulty, we may amend the Act. Therefore, this sum of Rs. 13.5 lakhs should be placed at the disposal of our Commissioner for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments for the maintenance of these temples. The Government should also ascertain what the total expenditure on these temples would be. There are a large number of temples in this district. We have already a very large number of temples in our State. Now, the total number would be very, very large. All these points should be seriously considered by the Government.

There is a suggestion in the Budget speech that the new Government that may come into being in March or May may consider the question of introducing new taxes. I cannot understand how our Madras State can bear any more taxes. Our land revenue surcharge is two annas and it cannot go higher up. Sales tax has been imposed in respect of all commodities. In addition to these, the Union Government have now come out with a tax on capital gains, a tax on dividends, etc. May I say that all this is for the purpose of seeing that people who have got a little money disgorge it? It is stated that it is for the purpose of financing the Second Five-Year Plan. But our Union Finance Minister has said that only two crores of rupees can be expected from out of these taxes whereas there is a huge deficit of Rs. 800 crores to be made up so far as the Plan is concerned. So far as the agricultural income-tax is concerned, I would like to point out that on account of the recent award of the Tribunal in respect of tea and coffee plantations, a particular company of which I am one of the shareholders and whose share capital is Rs. 46 lakhs, has to give away as much as Rs. 36 lakhs by way of additional wages to the labourers. It must be noted that the award operates retrospectively. Of course, the matter has been taken in appeal to the Supreme Court and I do not want to say anything further on this. But the fact remains that the agricultural income-tax will not bring in as much revenue as the Government think next year, it will. It will be very much less. Even this will be a great burden

20th December 1956]

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar]

on these estates. When that is so, the Government say, 'We will leave it to the new Government to think of fresh taxes'. They should say, 'We would advise the new Government not to impose any tax.'

Then, Sir, mention is made about the deficit in the Budget and its being covered by open market loans. The recent loans floated by the Government are said to be very successful in that Rs. 13.5 crores were got even though the Government wanted only ten crores of rupees. It is true that they got this amount. But do the Government know that the people who subscribed have now borrowed money on the Government certificates? They now find that the value of these certificates has gone down from Rs. 99-12-0 to Rs. 97 or so. They are now selling these bonds and are compelled to pay Rs. 2,000 or Rs. 3,000 more. The Reserve Bank which ought to have controlled all this, now refuses to buy these; and if at all it decides to buy, the decision is taken late so that, meanwhile, everything will be over. With this experience, I very much doubt whether there will be huge subscriptions to open market loans in the future. The Government may say that people will be induced to subscribe. But I do not want to dilate on the methods adopted by them for this purpose on the last occasion. That is a sad story. Their plight is sad 4 p.m. indeed. They have subscribed. Now, we find that the value of the certificate has gone down. I have not invested much. I am connected with a bank and, therefore, I know the difficulties of those who have subscribed to the loan. Crores of rupees were subscribed. But because the value has gone down, the subscribers find it difficult to encash the certificate without loss. That is the position so far as the recent loan is concerned. Therefore, I would suggest to the Government that before they float any loan, (I am not against their floating loans) they should see that the Reserve Bank comes to their rescue. Moreover, there should not be much of inducement to subscribe to the loan and there should be the least coercion. Let people subscribe to the loan freely without any inducement from any quarters. I am stating this because only in this State the loan has been oversubscribed.

I now come to another important point, viz., land reforms. We have passed two very important land reform measures. I think that another instalment of land reform in store to be pushed through probably by the new Government. The two land reform measures we have passed are themselves very important. They impose a great responsibility on the permanent officials of the State in the Revenue Department. It is they that have got to reach a correct decision as to what is the gross rent that has to be paid for any particular land and so on. Especially in a democratic State the permanent officials play a very important role. The Revenue Officers, in the opinion of Lord Bryce, should have political detachment. They should not indulge in party politics. Especially those officers who are in charge of the districts have got an onerous duty to perform. (Deputy Chairman in the Chair.)

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar] [20th December 1956]

They have to administer these two Acts very carefully. They should be impartial in their judgment and they should not take sides. They should uphold justice and they should not side with either the tenant or the landlord. Justice according to the law should be meted out to both the tenant and the landlord. The permanent officials should not indulge in politics. I say this because Ministers may come and go but these permanent officials remain for ever. They have got security of tenure.

I want to bring to the notice of the Government a recent case which came up before the High Court of Madras from Kulitalai taluk of Tiruchirappalli district. Orders were passed by the Collector of Tiruchirappalli in a certain case and challenging his orders, a writ petition was filed in the High Court by the landowner. The High Court of Madras, after going fully into the question, was pleased to pass certain strictures on the way in which the Collector of Tiruchirappalli had disposed of very important matters which came up before him, viz., whether the landowner was in possession or the previous tenant was in possession of the land on the crucial date mentioned in the Tenants' Protection Act. I want to mention how the High Court of Madras has disposed of that writ petition and what it has stated about the action taken by the Collector of Tiruchirappalli. I shall read from the judgment :

" Their Lordships had no hesitation in declaring that the impugned order of the Collector directed to the tenants and Police officials was illegal, without the authority of law, and wholly without jurisdiction in so far as the notification and his legal rights are concerned."

Their Lordships have also observed that it is for the Government to consider and consider seriously whether an officer with such totalitarian views and disregard for law should continue to be entrusted with the duties of maintaining law and order in any locality in this State. This is what the High Court has said in its solemn judgment after going into every detail of the case. The Government of Madras ought to consider (it is not for me to emphasise what the High Court has said) seriously the judgment delivered. Otherwise, the Tenants' Protection Act and the Fair Rent Act would play havoc on our people. The Collectors in charge of the districts should be impartial. The present judgment has pointed out the totalitarian way in which the Collector of Tiruchirappalli has disposed of the case that came up before him.

DR. V. K. JOHN : Has the hon. Member any reason to think that the Government will not do anything in pursuance of the judgment of the High Court?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : I am stating what the High Court has said to the Revenue Minister for whom I have great respect and who has assured us on the floor of the House that justice will be done both to the landlord and to the tenant.

20th December 1956]

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar]

The Government have got a heavy responsibility to implement these two Acts very carefully. The High Court has also stated the following :—

“ Apart from these considerations, the Collector had no legal right to order any kind of restoration to the tenants for which the existing laws do not provide.”

The Collector has passed an order contrary to the provisions of law. The High Court has also observed thus :—

“ The fiat of an Executive authority, however high-placed, cannot take the place of law. Yet that is what the Collector attempted. He provided for restoration; he provided for reduction of rents. Both partook of legislative functions. He directed that the tenants and waramdars should enter upon the lands they had cultivated the previous year. The Collector directed his subordinates to execute his direction to accord with his edict.”

It is for the Government to give a direction to the officers that the law should be strictly obeyed and all those who transgress the law, be they tenants or landlords, would be punished. If the landlord is right and the tenant transgresses the law, then the Government should not hesitate to give Police protection to the landlord. None of the officers should be allowed to take the law into their own hands, as has been done by the Collector of Tiruchirappalli. I say this because I feel that in a democratic State, as is said by Lord Bryce and Lowel, the permanent officials are a sacred trust. The permanent officials have security of tenure and though Ministers and Governments may change, they continue permanently. They are there not for the purpose of policy-making or taking active part in politics or holding their own notions of things. Laws may be good or bad, but it is not for them to assume powers not granted to them by law except to enforce the law as passed by us, strictly. If they try to assume extra powers, then Governments will not be safe, Ministers will not be safe, policies will become different, and things will go the wrong way. In Lowell's 'Government of England', a classical book, referring to Lord North, the author quotes an instance where the former asked all the officers of Government to give him their votes so that he might come to power again. On that, all the Revenue Officials joined together and petitioned for disfranchising them and it was done. Only afterwards the right of vote was restored to them. Therefore, if permanent officials exceed their powers, it is a serious matter and I request the Government to look into it. There is no use of dismissing it—one paper actually wrote like that—saying that they are Aryan Judges who have passed such remarks. There is no use of talking like that. All these talks are useless things which ought not to be mentioned. I know that our Government will not be carried away by all this. I am perfectly sure about that. Therefore, it is for them to see that such acts do not take place on the part of high officials who are in charge of the administration of these laws which are passed by us in the Legislature after great deliberation and difficulty.

4-10
P.m.

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar] [20th December 1956]

Only one or two matters more, Sir. As regards the strength of our Legislative Council, I want to say one or two words. The number of members, according to the Constitution, the maximum number, can be one-third of that of the Assembly. Therefore, we are entitled to have—'entitled' I say not legally, but ordinarily and fairly—64 Members. After very great difficulty, we had it fixed at 50 now and that too by an amendment passed by the Parliament, consequent on a writ petition. All that is history. At the time when the amendment was passed, mention was made in Parliament by some Members that it was only fair, considering other States, that our State also should have at least 64 Members in the Council. Therefore, I request the Government and the Hon. the Leader of the House for whom I have the greatest regard and respect—and because of that only I am emboldened to appeal to him—to make representations to the Centre, see Mr. Pant, the Home Minister, and see that we have 64 Members in the Council. There is another advantage also in that. The Assembly can have more representation on the Council and that will also be a good thing. Let us not think that in the Council there are only old foggeys and elders; here also vigorous people, young people, can come.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I propose to make a motion in this regard tomorrow, Sir.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Thanks very much. I know that the Hon. the Leader of the House will do everything to keep up the dignity of this House. I am happy about it.

Sir, I want to add my voice also to what the hon. Member Sri Mohamed Raza Khan said. The other day when our new Governor was installed in office, we were not given due recognition. The Governor has got everything to do with the Legislature. He delivers an Address to the Legislature and we discuss the Budget on his recommendation. Thus he has more to do with us than with the permanent officers of the Government. But, still, in the great 'Durbar' in which the new Governor was installed in office, the Members of the Legislature were not even introduced to him. Why should they not be at least introduced to him? Could he not be just told that this is so and so and that is so and so?

DR. V. K. JOHN : Will the hon Member be satisfied if Members of the Legislature are given back seats at least?

Well, that is a different thing. They were given red passes and we were given blue passes—perhaps they thought we were 'blue-blooded'.

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Whatever it might be, that is past. Now the Governor has been good enough to invite hon. Members of the Legislature to Tea sometime on the 26th instant to meet them individually.

20th December 1956]

DR. V. K. JOHN : May I ask, Sir, whether Members of the Legislature, Council and Assembly, should have been given only back seats on such a ceremonial occasion?

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : The difficulty was this. It was arranged perhaps by some officers and I cannot blame the Ministers for that. I would like to point out that hereafter . . .

* THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, I was thinking of making a reference to this while replying to the debate. But inasmuch as this matter has come up now, I would like to point out that it happened not because anybody wanted to minimise the importance of hon. Members of the Legislature, but the officers who made arrangements were guided by certain Warrant of Procedure. Hon. Members would remember that I stated sometime back in this House that we would be making a revision of the Warrant of Precedence. When that is done, it will be all right. But that has to be done by the Government of India and, therefore, we by ourselves could not do anything about that. Anyhow, we do propose to take up the whole matter and orders would issue soon so far as functions relating to this Government are concerned, like the swearing in of the Governor, etc. I am indeed very sorry for what has happened which should have caused some pain to hon. Members. About the seating arrangements in the future, I assure hon. Members that we shall look into the matter and see that proper arrangements are made.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : We are very thankful to the Hon. the Leader of the House for making that statement. Sir. Not that we try to make much of that, but on a question of principle and on a question of preserving the dignity of the Houses of the Legislature, we had to raise that issue.

Sir, the last point I wish to refer to is my pet subject, Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani systems of medicine. I want to say just one or two things. I am glad that our new Minister is there in charge of the subject. I have the greatest regard and respect for our Revenue Minister. (The Hon. Sri M. Bhaktavatsalam : He is a friend of Ayurveda!) I have spoken elaborately about the integrated medicine when the concerned Bill was introduced. Therefore, I shall not repeat anything that I said then. But there are one or two things which have happened later on to which I should like to refer now. Sir, there was a committee appointed by the Union Government, composed of the Health Ministers of the States. Not one of them was conversant with Ayurveda. Of course, all of them were Health Ministers of various States—Sourashtra, West Bengal and so on. They all toured the country and investigated into the question as to what must be the curricula in various subjects to be taught in the Colleges of Indian Medicine. They came to Madras also. But they did not examine many of the Ayurvedic practitioners. They examined only one such practitioner. The opinions of the people interested in Ayurveda were not called

[Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar]

[20th December 1956]

for. Therefore, the hon. Member Sri Purushotham or myself was not examined. We were not even called; I do not know why. If I was not called and examined, I do not mind. That is a different matter. I am not making any personal complaint about it. I am just pointing out the general lapse. Therefore, nothing was mentioned to them about the particular difficulties in our State so that we find in their report nothing mentioned about the Siddha system of medicine. It is because they did not know about it and nobody mentioned it to them. They just came, asked somebody and went away. Thus the existence of the Siddha system in Tamil was never brought to their notice at all. They did not know about it. Therefore, nothing has been mentioned about it. There is the Siddha system included in the subjects of study in the Colleges of Indigenous Medicine. I am not blaming the Members of the Committee and I do not say that they did it deliberately. Only they were quite ignorant of it.

There is another point about this, Sir. There are a host of medicines in the Siddha system, for instance, the 'Rasa' medicines, the ingredients being mercury and other materials. Some of these preparations are very good medicines for heart disease, etc. None of these things are mentioned in the curriculum at all. I cannot understand how that has happened.

4-20
p.m.

I am stating all these things not to criticise the report submitted to the Union Government. But they may call for the views of this Government and if they do so, I hope and trust that our Minister for Health will think twice before making any recommendation.

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : As regards the Siddha system, at the recent Health Ministers' conference at Ranchi, the matter was brought to their notice. Already research is going on at Jamshedpur into the Siddha system. It has been agreed that the Siddha system also will be included in the indigenous systems.

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : But the Committee Report has not mentioned anything about it.

Another very extraordinary recommendation is that people who know both the systems ought to be the teachers. But the question is : where are they available? A four and a half years' course has been prescribed and it is stated that teachers who know both the systems should be preferred. But where are those teachers available? An allopathic doctor may not study Ayurveda. Except our worthy colleague, the distinguished doctor, nobody else has ever studied Ayurveda. Nobody has ever cared to study it. My hon. Friend, I hope, will forgive me for saying this. An Ayurvedic practitioner also does not know anything about allopathy. But the recommendation made is that people who know both the systems of medicine should be the teachers.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : The hon. Member means the modern and the indigenous systems of medicine.

20th December 1956]

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR : Yes. Then, it is also stated that there should be teaching concurrently in both allopathy and Ayurveda. As one goes on teaching allopathy, one will condemn Ayurveda. And as one goes on teaching Ayurveda, one will say, 'I do not know anything about allopathy'. What will the poor student do? Is he to believe in Ayurveda or is he to believe only in allopathy? I cannot understand the implications of this solemn recommendation of four or five Health Ministers who toured the country and on whom so much of public money was spent. I hope and trust that our Government will pay due heed to the suggestions made here before they implement the recommendations made by the Committee.

Unfortunately, the College of Indigenous Medicine is now called the College of Integrated Medicine. Who integrated, I cannot understand. Who integrated Ayurveda and allopathy, nobody knows. We have called the college in a statute solemnly passed here as the College of Integrated Medicine. Our ex-Minister, Sri A. B. Shetty, was enthusiastic about stating it not only here, but he has now gone to the Mysore State and is propagating there this great theory of his about integrated medicine. I was almost tempted to write to him a letter. Probably he is an advocate of that integrated system of medicine. Unfortunately, as he himself said about our venerable Rajaji, I can also take liberty and say that he is a layman. He may be successful in public life, but he is still a layman. It is for the practitioners of both the systems to think over any plan by which it can be integrated. It has not been done up till now. Let us wait for the day when they will be integrated. But let us not do it by bringing in a statute or by making declarations and propaganda. Of course, these things are not relevant during the Budget discussion, but we are allowed to state them because we cannot vote Grants. I have taken the time of the House in mentioning some of the very important things like the rise in prices which will surely affect the public. Thank you, Sir.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Mr. Deputy Chairman, Sir, this is the third day of the Budget discussion and I ask the question how many Ministers were present to hear the speeches of the hon. Members of this House. With what disregard have our speeches delivered in this House been treated by the Members on the Treasury Benches? Sir, there are two trends in the political field to-day. One is that the democratic structure of our Government provided by the Constitution has disappeared. We are now having a totalitarian Government. The Constitution provided for a democracy by free elections, adult suffrage, an Executive responsible to the Legislature and an independent Judiciary. Now, Sir, we have adult suffrage and free elections. But have we an Executive responsible to the Legislature? I say deliberately and emphatically that we have a Legislature responsible to the Executive. That is clear. Day by day it is becoming quite clear that the Houses are disregarded, that the discussions in the House are a farce and that the

[Dr. V. K. John] [20th December 1956]

Executive carries on its business and is not responsible to the Legislature. It was mentioned by the previous speaker that the strength of this House should be increased to 64 and the Hon. the Leader of the House gracefully said that he was going to have a resolution moved in this House to-morrow for that purpose. But I ask, Did not this House and the Legislative Assembly pass last April two Resolutions, identical Resolutions, unanimously that the strength of this House must be kept at 51 and not reduced and did not an Hon. Minister tell the Government of India that he wanted only 48 and not 51 when a reference was made by the Government of India while the Joint Select Committee of the Parliament was in session?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : I may tell the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition that it is not correct to say that any Minister of this Government told the Government of India that we would prefer 48 to 51. A strength of 51 was recommended by this House and that recommendation was duly forwarded and supported by this Government. But the Government of India felt that the number 51 would not satisfy the representative proportion, ratio, to be maintained. Therefore, they said that they would have it as 48.

SRI V. V. RAMASWAMI : 48 பேர்களை வைத்துக்கொள்ளவேண்டும், இல்லாவிட்டால் 64 பேர்களை வைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று மத்திய அரசாங்கம் கேட்டது என்பது அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : 64 வேண்டுமானால் வைத்துக்கொள்ளலாம் என்று சொன்னார்கள். 64 என்று உயர்த்த இந்த சட்டசபை அபிப்பிராயம் ஒன்றும் தொலிக்கவில்லை.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Any way, the question was asked whether we would like to have 64 or 48, and I say that the Government of Madras said that they would be satisfied with 48. Now, I am introducing that not because I am keen that the strength of this House should be increased, but because I want to illustrate how the Resolutions of the Houses have been dealt with by the Executive and how the discussions in this House have been listened to by the Ministers. It might be said that there is the Leader of the House listening to everything and that he will transmit what all we say to the other Members of the Cabinet. Is that a proper procedure to be adopted? Is not attendance in the House more important than attending to files in their rooms? They can attend to the files sitting in this House. The Assembly is not sitting now. Therefore, I want to record my serious protest against the way in which this House has been treated by the Ministers of the Government. They do not seem to think that they are responsible to the Legislature. They seem to think that we are responsible to them.

Another thing also I might mention. An independent Judiciary is essential for the purpose of supporting, maintaining and promoting the democratic structure of Government. Sir, is it not a fact that today every High Court Judge thinks that he would get some job or other on retirement . . .

20th December 1956]

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN (sounding the gong) : No, no. . . 4-30
p.m.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Sir, I am not criticising the High Court Judges. I am criticising the trend in politics today. We are not in a totalitarian State.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Sir, it is not merely criticising the High Court Judges, but it is going into the minds of the High Court Judges which is rather too bad, I submit.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Sir, there are certain persons who ought to keep the balance even between the Government and the public. You are one of them, the Speaker of the Assembly is another and the Chairman and Members of the Public Service Commission and also the Election Commission and members of the Judiciary are others. The Government should not tempt any of these people. They are to be independent without looking forward to anything from the Government. The Soviet Union has got a perfect democratic Constitution on paper. But, still, it is a totalitarian Government. I am anxious that in the democratic set-up such as the one we have and which is provided according to our Constitution, the democratic structure should be preserved. Therefore, I say that this House should be treated with that respect and consideration that it deserves so that the democratic structure may be preserved and maintained. Having said this, I want to point out that this is a very irregular presentation of the Budget. My hon. Friend Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar has also referred to this fact. I have read through the Constitution. We cannot have two Budgets under Article 202. This is actually the presentation of a Statement of Accounts under Article 206. I do not know how the Constitution provides for the presentation of two Budgets. Are they going to introduce, as promised, another Budget in June? They cannot have two Budgets. Under Article 206, they can only take a 'vote on account' for a few months. I would only say that this is an election Budget.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : May I remind the hon. Member that we are voting money only for four months?

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Therefore, the Government cannot bring the Budget for the whole year. That is my contention. Under the Constitution, they can bring only one Budget in a year. They cannot call the present proposal a Budget. It can only be called a 'vote on account'. In this matter, I endorse the remarks of the hon. Member Sri Balasubramanya Ayyar. It is a very irregular procedure that has been adopted by the Government. Sir, it has been stated in the other House and elsewhere also that this is an election Budget. I entirely agree with that statement. There is one reason for that.

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM : What is the definition of an 'election Budget'?

[20th December 1956]

* DR. V. K. JOHN : Sir, the hon. Member is rather upset by the statements made by me. The other day, when I was listening to his speech on the floor of this House, I felt somewhat embarrassed, because he was not speaking so much on the Budget as paying encomiums to the Ministers and the Government. This, he could have done outside the House. Well, I am not here to tell the hon. Member what is meant by an 'election Budget'. If my learned friend cannot understand it today, I think he can think over it calmly and he will surely be in a position to understand what is meant by it when he comes here tomorrow. I say that this is an election Budget. We find that there will be a deficit to the tune of Rs. 5 crores. It is also stated that they have not provided for any new taxes. The hon. Member Sri Purushotham, while speaking on the Budget on the very first day, said that we had been taxed to the full and that there could be no more taxes. What was it that the Hon. the Minister for Finance, while introducing the Budget for 1956-57 said? This is what he has stated :

“ The deficit of Rs. 311 lakhs is indeed substantial and cannot all be left uncovered. The necessity for balancing the Budget is greater, now, since we have already used up the concealed margin in the Revenue Account by the transfer to Capital of about Rs. 3½ crores of outlay hitherto met from current revenues.”

Thus, he did not want to leave uncovered the deficit of Rs. 311 lakhs at that time. But, now when there is a deficit of Rs. 5 crores, he does not want to cover it. It only shows that he does not want to become unpopular by introducing new taxes. I assure this House that we are definitely going to be taxed in future. Definitely, new taxes are going to be imposed in spite of the statement made by the hon. Member Sri T. Purushotham. They will impose new and regressive taxes in the years to come. But, they do not want to do it just at present on the eve of elections. That is why I say that this is an 'election Budget' and that they do not want to become unpopular just now by imposing new taxes. Merely for being popular with the voters, they have not provided for any taxes just now.

Sir, it is now stated by the Hon. the Leader of the House that they have provided more and more for development services and that they are not spending much on non-development services. But, what are the facts? Let us see. Is that a correct statement and is it a fact? Can the Leader of the House make such a statement? In 1947-48, when this State was very much bigger when it consisted of the Andhra districts and the districts of Malabar and South Kanara also, they were spending a sum of about Rupees 5,60,00,000 under General Administration. Now, when those districts have been separated from us and when the State has been reduced to half its size in 1947-48, the amount that the Government are spending under General Administration is about Rs. 4,17,00,000. Naturally, the expenditure should have been half of what it was in 1947-48, if the statement of the Hon. the Leader of the House

20th December 1956] [Dr. V. K. John]

that they are not spending much on non-development services is true. Take the Police Department, Sir. In 1947-48, the expenditure under this head was Rs. 4.64 crores. But today the expenditure under the same head is about Rs. 5 crores and odd. When we have such figures in the statements given by the Government themselves, how can the Hon. the Leader of the House claim that the Government are not spending much on non-development services? Is it not clearly an election stunt?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM : Let the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition also look at the total assets.

* DR. V. K. JOHN : What is the idea behind all these things? There is no use of saying, 'Oh!, look here, we are not taxing you. We are spending only on development services more and more money.' How much are the Government spending on these non-development services today? That is the point. They are spending more or less the same amount of money that they were spending in 1947-48 when the State was double its present size. That fact should not be lost sight of. Now, let us see why they spend so much on the Police Department. Whenever a Minister goes to some mufassal station, thousands of rupees are spent on Police. Again when somebody comes from outside and visits our State, a heavy expenditure is incurred by the Police Department. It is clear that the statement of the Hon. the Leader of the House is only meant to satisfy the general public that the Government are doing very well.

Sir, there is another point which I want to mention in this connection. During the last few years, the Congress Government has been going entirely 'leftist'. Now, there is no difference between the Congress Government and the Socialists or the Communists. The Government have been adopting the policy of first determining the expenditure and then finding the income. Any prudent man ought first to find out what is the income that he is likely to get and then adjust his expenditure according to that income. It is an absurd idea that the Government very much differ from a private individual in this respect. If a person, without any idea of his income, goes on incurring expenditure to the extent of lakhs and lakhs of rupees over and above his income, he will surely become insolvent. The State must know first what its income will be. The Hon. the Finance Minister must be apprenticed under a tailor who can cut the coat according to the cloth.

First of all, we must know what is the revenue that can legitimately be collected from the people. What are the principles behind collection of revenue? The first principle is that no collection of revenue should reduce the purchasing power of the people. If you read the address delivered by the President of the United States of America on the 20th January, 1955 to the Congress, you will find mentioned a wholesome principle of economics. It is this, 'The American Government are anxious

4-40
p.m.

[Dr. V. K. John] [20th December 1956]

to see that taxes are reduced and that the purchasing power of the people is put up.' If a man is unemployed in the United States, he gets the equivalent of a thousand rupees because he must have purchasing power. The Government should not take away the purchasing power of the people. What is the result of the policy of the American Government? Every man can buy a car and every man gets a car. Ten million cars are produced every year. People are employed in this manufacture. Spare parts are produced in large quantities. Petrol is sold in plenty. And it is an expanding economy, in the language of economists. Sir, I have made some study of economics in order to follow the discussion intelligently. It is an expanding economy there. The Government depend on the economic strength of the Nation to get revenue and not on regressive taxes. Take General Motors. This one company alone—there are hundreds like this—pays taxes which are more than the total revenues of our Central Government and the States put together. They collect so much because they plan for an expanding economy and the purchasing power of the people is pushed up. Now, what are you doing? You take away from the people much of what they have. The declared objective of the Government is to mop up the purchasing power of the people. It is said that the rich alone are taxed. In the present economic structure of society, can our Government ever tax the rich people without passing on that burden to the poor man? They collect ten thousand rupees on a bus from the bus operators. Do they pay this amount from out of their pockets? It is passed on to the poor passengers. The Government must realise that the burden of any taxation is passed on to the poor. Now, it is said: 'We are taxing the rich'. I say it is wrong. They are taxing the poorest of the poor. They are taxing even the beggar's bowl. If a beggar collects eight annas by way of alms, they take away from him two or three annas by way of sales tax. When he buys rice or some such thing, he has to pay sales tax. My friend to my left was quoting me as saying that this was a regressive tax. It is not only regressive but it is an immoral tax. A man starts a business or a company starts a business. The Government want a share of the profit that is earned but they do not want to share the loss. They want shares in the capital. They do not want to share the losses, if any. Sir, in the U.S.A. and in other countries, the purchasing power of the people is increased in two ways. One is giving the workers adequate wages. The other is giving the currency the best purchasing value. Today, in our country, the rupee is worth only four annas. We do not give the currency the purchasing value that is due because there is no production. The cost of living is high. What does petrol cost in America? Six annas per gallon as against Rs. 2-8-0 here. But is it that is happening in this State? A man earns hundred rupees of which thirty-five rupees are sought to be taken away by way of sales tax. Transport takes away from the individual fifteen rupees. He is left with a bare fifty rupees. What can he do with this when the cost of living has gone up and his

[20th December 1956] [Dr. V. K. John]

purchasing power has gone down? Then, Sir, why is the yield from sales tax coming down gradually? Of course, the Government may say it has not come down and the figure is the same as it was before. But that is not correct. The figure may be the same but what is the number of articles taxed and what is the rate of the tax? Both the number of articles and the rate have been increased and that is how the figure is kept up. Sales tax is the barometer to measure the purchasing power of the people. Simply because we have the legislative power to tax, we cannot tax out the people. If we do that, all will become insolvent. The law of diminishing returns is an accepted theory in economics. Now, the Congress Government have followed this for a long time. What is happening in the country, after the Congress Government have declared their adherence to a socialist pattern of society? The Congress Party is collecting money for elections from rich men and businessmen. Landholders, zamindars and businessmen give money for elections. They do not understand what they are doing. If they do understand, then they are unable to resist it. This money is being collected in order to destroy themselves ultimately. I ask the Government, 'Has the Congress at any time levelled up the standard of living?' It has only levelled down. Have the Government any statistics to show that they have actually levelled up the living standards of the people? The Finance Minister of the Central Government had the courage the other day to say at Calcutta that they were mopping up the purchasing power of the people. Any economist, any student of economics will say that this is not the correct method to be adopted. If we take one rupee as tax, it must be so utilized as to produce ten rupees. Have the Government made a survey of the purchasing power of the people in this State? I say the Government should be in the same position as the individual. It is very wrong to go on with the imposition of regressive taxes like the sales tax.

Then, Sir, I come to an important subject, unemployment. Is there one word about it in the Budget speech either of the Finance Minister or of the Leader of the House? Sir, I looked up the old records a little while ago and this is what the Hon. the Finance Minister said when moving the Budget for the year 1954-55 :—

"Private capital is shy in seeking new ventures and even in the existing limited field, there is little of new investment. The real trouble seems to be consumer resistance caused by the low purchasing power of the masses and this can be corrected only on a long-range basis."

He dealt with unemployment in three pages. This is the most important problem facing the public to-day. Does he say anything now about this and about the low purchasing power of the people? He does not want to tell the people on the eve of elections that the Government have not been able to tackle these problems. I say, 'Let not the Centre take all sources of taxation' We have always been feeling shy of taking all the sources of taxation within our State in our own hands. We always go abegging to the Centre.

[Dr. V. K. John] [20th December 1956]

Why should we not ourselves collect all the taxes which are now collected by the Centre in our State and spend the money after giving a portion of it to the Central Government? In the alternative, let the Central Government take over all sources of taxation; let them collect all the taxes and give us a portion. I think that portion of the Constitution, dealing with the relationship between the Centre and the State Governments in regard to collection of taxes, should be amended. I am completely dissatisfied with the present arrangement. When we have autonomy, why should the Centre collect all these taxes from the Madras State and why should our Ministers go to Delhi abegging and ask them for some more loan or grant? What is the amount of loan that we have borrowed from the Centre? It has gone up to Rs. 100 crores. We are paying now Rs. $4\frac{1}{2}$ crores annually as interest on the loans we have taken. The Hon. the Leader of the House has rightly pointed out that a sum of $4\frac{1}{2}$ crores is now being paid as interest on the loans that we have borrowed. Our income being Rs. 52 crores, we are giving away $\frac{1}{11}$ th of it as interest on the loans that we have taken. What was the interest we had been paying before? The Hon. the Leader of the House pointed out that some years ago we had been paying only Rs. 80 lakhs as interest on the loans. It has now risen to Rs. $4\frac{1}{2}$ crores. How long can we continue to pay such a heavy sum as interest? What has been the policy of the Congress Government from 1946? They have borrowed from 1946 over Rs. 100 crores. The amount provided for interest charges in the current Budget is Rs. 480 lakhs as against Rs. 82 lakhs in 1947-48. The Hon. the Leader of the House has stated that this should not cause any undue anxiety because we have invested what we have borrowed in productive capital. He has stated that during the last five years Rs. 96 crores have been sunk in productive capital.

Let us now look into the figures relating to 'Irrigation'. We find that we are working at a loss. We have incurred a yearly loss of Rs. 44 lakhs on Irrigation. Taking "electricity.", at one place, we find the figure is "Rs. 2.96 crores". But, in another place we find the interest paid on "electricity borrowings" is Rs. 372 lakhs, that is, Rs. 3 crores and 72 lakhs. That is the figure given in the White Paper on the Budget. We are paying as interest all the moneys that we have borrowed under "electricity". While we get a return of Rs. 3 crores, we are paying an interest of more than Rs. 3 crores on electricity borrowings. In other words, we are working at a loss.

The Government have borrowed over Rs. 100 crores during the last five years and something more in previous years and wasted all that money. That is what I would say. They have wasted all the money. They cannot even pay the interest on the money they have borrowed. But, with all these, the Hon. the Leader of the House has said that we need not be upset because we have made these investments. I challenge him to tell this House how much the Government have invested, what is the return and what is the interest they have to pay?

26th December 1956] [Dr. V. K. John]

I now come to "State Trading". By this only the contractors have made money. The Government have recently stated that in State trading this Government have incurred a loss of Rs. 5 crores and the Centre Rs. 45 crores. The State calls it 'nationalisation'. I call it "State Capitalism". When the State takes over the business carried on by private businessmen, it wastes the money and the money goes into the contractor's pocket, who in turn is not able to bring that money out because of the fear of being assessed to income-tax.

Government have been raising loans frequently. The hon. Member Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar has stated that the value of the recent 4 per cent loan bond whose issue price was Rs. 99-12-0 has come down to Rs. 97. When the Government called for subscriptions to the loan, a man borrowed a lakh of rupees from the bank and invested that money in the loan. Now, because the value of the bond has come down to Rs. 97, he has to incur a loss of about Rs. 3,000. He thus stands to lose and suffers. Is this the correct policy of borrowing money? Can the Government borrow in this manner? They do not stop there. After borrowing in this manner, they openly publicise that the loan has been over-subscribed. The correct method of borrowing would be to borrow direct in the open market. You get your loans subscribed as nobody is now prepared to invest money in any private company. This would not have happened if only Government had not killed private enterprise. Therefore, I submit that it is high time for this House to assert its right to go into every detail and point out to the Government that they are going on a path which will lead to ruin, insolvency, regressive taxation, loss of purchasing power of the people, rise in prices and poverty of the people. We have to tell them this straightway. We are not concerned with elections. I am not here in the Opposition to pay encomiums to Ministers. I know the Ministers are upset when Dr. John is not complimenting them. But I cannot compliment them.

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: I may tell the Deputy Leader of the Opposition that we will be upset only if the hon. Member pays compliments to us.

* DR. V. K. JOHN: I am glad that the hon. the Leader of the House has explained the position. But I know some Members, if they pay compliments to the Ministers in one sentence, criticise them in the second sentence, and if the third sentence is a compliment the fourth is a criticism. I am not here to do that. I want to tell the Government that they are going on a wrong path. I want to criticise them seriously, sincerely, and earnestly and ask them to retrace their steps. In fact, we have only three leftist parties in India. One is the "Congress" Party, the other is the "Communist" Party and the third is the "Praja Socialist" Party. All are going on one road and the Congress is running to defeat them in front of the road. It is the Congress that is more leftist to-day. I invite the Members of this House and others outside to start a Party against these leftist Parties, a party which

[Dr. V. K. John] [20th December 1956]

5 p.m. will stand for full employment of people and for payment of minimum wages and a party which will not resort to this kind of borrowing but which will stand for some economic theory which will bring prosperity and salvation to the people of this country.

* SRI V. R. RANGANATHAN : Mr. Chairman, Sir, at the outset, I would like to say that we are all happy that the Hon. the Finance Minister in the Legislative Assembly and the Hon. the Leader of the House here delivered their Budget speeches in Tamil. Not that it matters much, but we hope that it is a first step in the direction of changing the language of administration of the State. There is no point in saying that we are having democracy here or Peoples' Government when we find that the language of administration is different from the language of the people. I hope that now that our hon. Friend Sri A. Gajapathy Nayagar is on the right side of the House, he would press his old Motion and probably would have a better chance of success now.

Regarding the Committee appointed by the Government to compile administrative terms in Tamil, I find that in the course of this week, they will present their Report to the Government. That reminds me of the several committees appointed previously to compile scientific terms in Tamil. We do not know what happened to those committees. No orders were passed on their Reports. Every time a set of terms is published, there is controversy, some opposing those terms and others supporting them. I only wish that the same fate should not overtake these terms. Therefore, the Government, instead of approving particular terms only, should give a large number of alternatives and there should be scope, wherever possible, for adopting English terms with which we have become familiar and which are being very commonly used. Such terms could be adopted as far as possible and only where there is difficulty or where there are suitable terms in Tamil, those terms should be adopted. In any case, I would like the Government to pass early orders on this matter and pass the orders in a firm manner.

Sir, deficit budgeting has become the order of the day now. I do not think any State, much less the Central Government, has ever produced a balanced Budget. The expenditure far exceeds the revenue and the Government have to float a loan or introduce fresh taxation. Whatever it is, I do not like that the gap should be left uncovered. It should have been somehow filled up. This should have been done, especially having regard to new services and new items of expenditure. If later on the new Government feel that they have to scrap any of these schemes, they are welcome to do so and take the responsibility for that. Leaving the gap unfilled gives room for unfair criticism that it is being done in order to gain popularity.

As the hon. the Deputy Leader of the Opposition has been remarking, expenditure has been growing and no attempt has been made to check it. I do not mean to say that there should

20th December 1956] [Sri V. R. Ranganathan]

be wholesale retrenchment; when we talk of retrenchment, we think of only the last grade Government servants and the non-Gazetted officers. That is not enough. I like that the whole fabric of administration should be reviewed. We are having the same old machinery, the British machinery without the Britisher. That is all. We have increased our expenditure ten-fold. In every department of administration, expenditure has increased and no attempt has seriously been made to curtail expenditure. I remember, Sir, some years ago the Ramalingam Chettiar Committee made certain very modest recommendations. What happened to those recommendations, nobody knows, because those recommendations were never implemented. I want the Government to review the whole administrative machinery, not only in order to economise expenditure, but also in order to ensure efficiency with less and less expenditure. I do not think that in the past 10 years or more any serious attempt was ever made to review the administrative machinery, to find out how far it was efficient, how far it could be kept efficient without considerable increase in expenditure, etc. These things have not been studied at all. I would like the new Government at least to look into this question.

I feel, Sir, in several departments of Government there is considerable scope for cutting down expenditure. I particularly mention the Police and the Revenue Departments. In the Revenue Department, if one looks into the list, one will find a very large number of new posts having been created. Posts of Officers after officers have been created—additional P.A.'s, etc. The same thing is going on in the Police Department also. Particularly, Sir, in the Revenue Department, the Commercial Tax section is no longer dealt with by them; judicial functions have been taken away. Still, the number of Revenue Divisional Officers has not come down. I know that they have got very little work and that there is no need for some of them. Similarly in the Police Department also a number of posts are absolutely superfluous. Police expenditure has been steadily on the increase even after Malabar and South Kanara have been separated.

There is one important thing about Police expenditure. Previously it used to be defended on the grounds that there was lawlessness, that the Communists were giving trouble, that there was rioting, etc. But in the past two years or so we have not heard of any such thing. The Police Administration Report itself states that the law and order position is very satisfactory. We do not have to resort even to mild lathi charge. Still we are going on increasing the strength of the Police force with consequent increased expenditure.

While speaking about the Police Department, we have to point out one thing and that is the frequent transfers of Police officers. I think there is provision in the rules that normally an officer should not be in one place for more than three years. It carries by implication that every officer could normally serve in one place for three years. Now, I would like the Government to look into the question

[Sri V. R. Ranganathan] [20th December 1956]

how many Deputy Superintendents of Police and District Superintendents of Police have remained in one station for more than a year or, at the most, for more than two years. They are very frequently transferred. In the City itself, there has been a complete overhaul of the officers and all previous officers have been transferred. Dislocation in one place creates dislocation in various other places also, as dislocation in one place leads to a chain of arrangements in various other places. It affects the whole administration. I think this question of frequent transfers ought to be looked into. Before an officer gets to know the place and the people, he is transferred and the new officer has to begin all over again to acquaint himself with the locality and the people there. Thus, instead of doing much useful work, the officers have to spend much of their time in preliminaries, in understanding the people and their problems. And, by the time the officer understands the people and their problems, he is transferred and a new man comes and starts over again. I am not speaking of occasional transfers, but am referring to frequent and regular transfers of Deputy Superintendents of Police, District Superintendents of Police, Deputy Commissioners and others. I think that if there is to be any efficiency at all, this sort of thing should be checked.

We have been talking so much of Peoples' Government and co-operation between the public and the Police. But I am afraid the old methods of the Police have not changed. Well, I am not saying that things have not improved; there might have been some improvement. But, still, the situation is very unsatisfactory and the old Police methods still continue.

5-10
P. 11.

The Government and the superior officers are always ready to defend their officers. It is the case not only in the Police Department but in every other department also. The other day we found the Hon. the Finance Minister defending the Deputy Inspector for issuing a circular. I wish he had got the circular with him to see whether it was advisory or otherwise. Whenever our officers commit mistakes, it is much better for the Head of the Department to accept the mistakes, for the superiors and the Government also to accept the mistakes, and have them rectified. I think the only person who often does that is our Prime Minister. But, of course, he is very touchy so far as External Affairs are concerned. He never changes his views in that respect but in respect of other things, he always says, 'I shall look into the matter. It is wrong to have done this and I shall look into it.' That is what he does, but our Ministers never do that. That is so so far as my experience goes. They have always been defending their officers. That is not a correct attitude to take.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : When they deserve to be defended, they defend them.

* SRI V. R. RANGANATHAN : But, when they do not deserve to be defended, then the prestige of the Government will rise if only they accept the mistake and call the officer concerned to behave better. Only the other day I was passing by a Police

20th December 1956] [Sri V. R. Ranganathan]

station and I heard shouts and beatings inside. I stopped my car and went into the Police station. There I found an officer sitting and a Police constable beating a man. I told him that he was doing a wrong thing and I asked him to stop it in his own interests. Then, he apologised to me and said that he was only threatening him. This happens in one of the crowded localities in Madras. That being so, what will be going on in the districts? I hear harrowing tales of atrocities. The position might have changed but it is still not satisfactory and it has not changed to any appreciable extent.

There is one question that ought to be looked into and that is the question of the abolition of the Prohibition Department and the transfer of the work to the Police Department. Many people thought that it was an advantage to entrust it to the Police Department. I think it is not, Sir. After all, of the two departments one acted as a check on the other. Now, there is absolutely no check at all. There is a Tamil proverb which says, 'When the fence begins eating the crop, where is the protection for the crop?'. This case is like that. There are a lot of complaints about the Police Department. I do not know whether they are genuine or not. But I know one case where a Police lorry was involved in smuggling liquor into the City. That was brought to the notice of the officials just because this lorry met with an accident. Otherwise, nobody would have known about it. Even now, I do not know what action the Government have taken in this matter. But I may say that an incident happened not very long ago in Madras. So, I think there ought to be a check. Especially when there is so much of illicit distillation and so much of cheap money being made, I think there ought to be two departments, one acting as a check on the other. Now, if the Police Department commit mistakes, who is to check them? If they violate the rules, who is to check them? I think it is a mistake to combine these two departments.

As regards Education, it is a very good thing for the Education Department that the portfolios of Education and Finance have been combined in one Minister. I remember years ago, when I had to contact one of the Education Ministers, most of his schemes were thrown out by the Finance Department and I often felt and the Education Minister himself felt that if he had only 'Finance' with him, he would have done many more things. They are happily combined now in the present Minister and I am glad that teachers have got a large number of benefits on account of this combination. They have got their pay enhanced. They have got their pension. I think in the whole of India we are the first State to give pension to teachers. The Education Minister has promised the teachers many other things also. For example, the scheme for provision of midday meals is coming up. He has done something in regard to payment of grants also. That is all because he has the purse-string under his control. I only hope that this tradition of combining Education—so far as I am concerned—with Finance will be continued in the future set-up also.

[Sri V. R. Ranganathan] [20th December 1956]

A new departure in policy has been announced extending the fee concessions to Harijan converts to Christianity. Well, Sir, this is something that has taken me aback. There were a number of occasions when this policy was discussed and given up. Now, I do not grudge a few people getting some advantages by this new concession. But I am only quarrelling with the principle. Where is the logic or soundness of the scheme? If untouchability and caste are parts of Hinduism, does it mean that the person concerned takes his caste and his 'untouchability' when he embraces another religion? (Sri K. Balasubramanya Ayyar: There may be Christian Harijans.) There will be no Christian Harijan. How can caste, untouchability and these disadvantages go into another religion? I am not a very staunch Hindu, but what I am saying is that there is no logic in extending this concession to Christian converts. If they are only Harijans, the concession can be given. There are poor Muslims and poor Brahmins also. The concession can be extended to them. But I am only quarrelling with the principle. The principle is wrong. I would like a few more of these poor, unfortunate people to get a few more concessions. After all, the concession given is very small. Now, many of the followers of late Dr. Ambedkar embraced Buddhism. Will this concession be extended to Buddhist converts also? I would like to know whether, if a Harijan becomes a Buddhist, he will be entitled to this concession or not. Will this principle be extended to the case of backward communities also? Will members of the backward communities, when they change their religion, be entitled to the same concession? It is only involving the Government in endless trouble. Have they really gained popularity by extending this concession to Christian converts? I am perfectly satisfied that a few more people will get this concession. But I am only quarrelling with the principle.

Then, there is something wrong with the Education Department. For one thing, we have not seen an Administrative Report issued by the Education Department for the past five years. Every department publishes its Administrative Report. But I have not seen Administrative Reports issued by the Education Department for the last five years. I have made enquiries. I was told that no Report was published after 1951 or 1952. What was called the Public Instruction Report used to contain very valuable information. Our 'education' has been expanding. New services have been coming into existence. New posts have been created. But we do not know where we stand so far as Education is concerned. Because I do not have the Reports, I have not been able to gather many particulars. Quite a large number of posts have been left unfilled, not for days but for months—not merely administrative posts but teaching posts also. If a post can be kept vacant for four months—for example, if the post of a District Educational Officer can be kept vacant for four months—is there any justification for having that post or filling up that post later on? For four months, they have carried on without that post being filled up. Then why not they carry on without that post for

20th December 1956] [Sri V. R. Ranganathan]

ever? Where is the justification for reviving that post at the end of four or five months? This happens not merely on the administrative side but also on the teaching side. Only day before yesterday, I received a communication from Tirunelveli saying that a school there was under-staffed and that they required three additional hands. It says that representations have been made to the Inspector who has forwarded the same to the Director of Public Instruction and that nothing has been done in the matter so far. Is it fair to the parents? Is it fair to the children who attend the school? Is it fair that posts should remain unfilled for long periods in this fashion? In Erode, last year, a school worked with only a single L.T. Assistant while they required 4 L.T. Assistants. For the whole year, the posts were kept vacant. In Coimbatore, one such post has been kept vacant. What is to happen to the children studying in these schools? Do the Government expect the children to simply go there and listen to some casual teaching by other teachers? They make a reference to the Service Commission to select a number of candidates for the post of School Assistant. Pending their selection, could not somebody else be posted to fill up these short vacancies? If a L.T. teacher is not available, why not appoint a raw Graduate? Our institutions, particularly, girls' schools had a reputation for efficiency. Now, people are beginning to revise their views.

5.20
p.m.

There is one other point that I wish to place before this House. Looking into the Civil List of Gazetted Officers—because that is the only list available to me—I found that there were 33 administrative posts—actually it is 34 including the Inspector of European Schools—in the Madras Educational Service. Of these, 32 posts are filled by persons under emergency provisions and the persons are drawing a salary of Rs. 230. Where is administrative efficiency? They have been drawing this salary for the last five years or so and some of them have been drawing that salary for seven years also. They were not required to undergo any probation. There has been no regularization of services. No increments have been sanctioned to them. They are afraid to go on leave lest they should lose the job or continuity of service. If they take leave, they are afraid that they will immediately be reverted to their subordinate posts. I know of only these cases. I had time to scrutinize only these cases. Perhaps there may be other such cases also. I was able to look at these cases only this morning. Some of these officers, I learn, have been recruited by the Madras Public Service Commission. Is not the Service Commission taking note of this violation of the terms of their recruitment? They were not kept under probation. No increment has been given to them. I do not know whether the Service Commission has taken note of this matter and protested to the Government against this irregularity and, if they have protested, whether the Government have taken any action in the matter. I have written to the Minister sometime back on these questions. But, I have not received a reply from him except an acknowledgment of my letter. Whatever it is, it is a matter that requires immediate attention.

[Sri V. R. Ranganathan] [20th December 1956]

In this connexion, I would like to refer to the Blind School at Poonamallee with which I am connected from the very beginning. It was taken over by the Government in the year 1947-48. I know it particularly because I went to take charge of that institution at that time. It is now eight years since that institution was taken over. Normally, the minimum period prescribed by Government for making any post or institution permanent is five years. But, although this institution has been in existence under Government management for a period of seven or eight years, it still continues to be a temporary institution. Nobody there has been confirmed. Nobody in that institution has been allowed to draw increments. It is a peculiar and strange situation indeed. But, it is a fact. Because of the special nature of duties expected to be discharged by the teachers posted to that institution, every teacher, whether a secondary grade trained teacher or a Graduate, is allowed three advance increments. That is done to give some inducement to the teachers to join that institution. Let us see what has happened. After spending five years there and after these three increments, they are not allowed to draw further increments. They are not able to take leave also for the simple reason that they have not completed their probation as no probationary rights are conferred upon them. That is a matter which requires Government's earnest and immediate attention.

I want to say a few words on only one other matter as I have no breath speaking so long. There is one other subject. In the Education Department, a number of Officers have been suspended pending enquiry. I can say for certain that two Officers, a woman Officer and a man Officer, have been kept under suspension for more than a year and that no enquiry has been instituted so far. It is still in the stage of preliminary enquiry. It is still in the stage of framing charges and taking evidence. They have not yet begun formal inquiry. What is going to happen to the families of these persons? They will get the subsistence allowance only for three months. After this period, they will not get any allowance. What is to happen to them and their families after that? Should not the Government exercise some check over such irregularities? There are, I understand, a number of other such cases where Junior Deputy Inspectors, Deputy Inspectors and School Assistants have been kept under suspension and the enquiry in the usual procedure has taken years. In one case that I have mentioned, the enquiry was conducted by an incompetent officer and so, *de novo* enquiry had to be conducted. There is something wrong with the Education Department. I would like the Hon. the Finance and Education Minister kindly to look into the whole question.

Lastly, I wish to say that in the educational field, institutions have increased in number. Deputy Inspectors' Ranges have increased; new ranges have been formed and additional work has been given to these Officers. In the Revenue Department, for every item of expenditure, they immediately sanction the employment of Personal Assistants to the Collector and other additional

20th December 1956] [Sri V. R. Ranganathan]

staff such as upper division clerks, lower division clerks and stenotypists. What has happened in the case of the Education Department? I can quote a few instances. There are districts where the number of secondary schools has doubled. In Salem, there are 60 high schools, but there is only one District Education Officer. Just imagine what amount of work he has to do by way of correspondence, inspection and so on. If he has to inspect a high school for two days in a year, it would take him 120 days. Where is the time for him to attend to other matters? These schools, I think, work for 180 days in a year. Can there be a proper inspection of all these schools by the District Educational Officer within the short time at his disposal? There is another district having 68 schools. I refer to the Coimbatore and the Nilgiris districts which are clubbed together in the statement I have; but there are two Officers there. So, let us leave them. Now, let us take Madras. There are 50 schools. Each school in Madras is equal to at least two or three schools in the mofussil as the schools in Madras are very big ones. We have got only one Educational Officer to do the work here. My friend Sri Srinivasavaradan will be able to say how inspection takes place here. There is another district which has got 66 schools, but there is only one District Educational Officer. In the district of South Arcot, there are 55 schools, but there is only one District Educational Officer. The Ranges have also increased. I think there are about 18 of them. Still, there is only one Officer. How do the Government expect these Officers to discharge their duties efficiently? I think most of our districts have to be bifurcated in view of the increase in the number of schools and students. We must have more Officers for each district. Thank you, Sir.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The House will now adjourn and meet again at 2-30 p.m. to-morrow.

The House then adjourned.

V.—PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE OF THE HOUSE.

1. Notification issued with G.O. No. 4015, Revenue, dated the 3rd November 1956, regarding amendment to the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Rules, 1955. [Vide section 7 (2) of the Madras Cultivating Tenants Protection Act, 1955.]

2. Notification issued with G.O. No. 4173, Revenue, dated the 14th November 1956, regarding the exemption from sales tax of the sales effected by District Co-operative Supply and Marketing Societies leviable under the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939.

3. Notification issued with G.O. No. 4209, Revenue, dated the 17th November 1956, regarding exemption from sales tax of sales by Co-operative Wholesale Stores and by displaced persons from Ceylon.